Claims

[c1] 1.A laminated plate assembly comprising:

a first lamination defining at least one hole;

a second lamination positioned adjacent to the first lamination, the second lamination defining at least one hole corresponding in number and position thereof to the at least one hole of the first lamination; and at least one interlocking tab extending from each hole in the second lamination through the corresponding hole in the first lamination, the at least one tab being bent against the side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, to thereby secure the first and second laminations together.

[c2] 2.The assembly of Claim 1 further comprising at least one interior lamination interposed between the first lamination and the second lamination, the interior lamination defining at least one hole corresponding in number and position thereof to the at least one hole of the first lamination.

[c3] 3.The assembly of Claim 1 wherein the at least one interlocking tab is at least one first interlocking tab and the assembly further comprises at least one second interlocking tab extending from at least one hole in the second lamination, and wherein each at least one first tab and each at least one second tab extend from a respective hole in the second lamination through a corresponding hole in the first lamination and are bent against the side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, to thereby secure the first and second laminations together.

[c4] 4.The assembly of Claim 1 wherein the at least one hole in each of the first and second laminations is formed at the periphery of the lamination, the tab on the second lamination extends through the corresponding hole on the first lamination and is bent against a side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, thereby securing the first and second laminations together.

[c5] 5.A laminated assembly comprising:

a plurality of laminations in a stacked formation, each lamination having

first and second surfaces;

the stacked formation including at least one first lamination and at least one second lamination;

the at least one first lamination defining at least one hole;

the second lamination defining at least one hole corresponding in number and position thereof to the at least one hole of the first lamination;

at least one interlocking tab extending from each at least one hole in the second lamination remaining secured to the second lamination on at least one side of the hole;

the at least one tab extending through the corresponding hole in the first lamination; and

the at least one tab being bent against a side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, thereby securing the first and second laminations together.

[c6] 6.The assembly of Claim 5 further comprising at least one interior lamination interposed between the first lamination and the second lamination, the interior lamination defining at least one hole corresponding in number and position to the at least one hole of the first lamination, wherein any material from the at least one hole is removed from the interior lamination.

[c7] 7.The assembly of Claim 5 wherein the at least one interlocking tab is at least one first interlocking tab and the assembly further comprises at least one second interlocking tab extending from at least one hole in the second lamination, each at least one first tab and each at least one second tab remaining secured to the second lamination on at least one side, each at least one first tab and each at least one second tab extending from the hole in the second lamination through the corresponding hole in the first lamination, each at least one first tab and at least one second tab being bent against the side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, to thereby secure the first and second laminations together.

[c8] 8.The assembly of Claim 5 wherein the at least one hole in each of the first and second laminations is formed at the periphery of the laminations, and the tab

on the top lamination extends through the corresponding slot of the first lamination, each tab being bent against the side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, to thereby secure the first and second laminations together.

[c9] 9.A laminated plate assembly comprising:

a first lamination;

a second lamination positioned adjacent to the first lamination, the second lamination having at least one interlocking tab projecting beyond the periphery of the second lamination; and

wherein the at least one tab is wrapped around the periphery of the first lamination such that the tab is crimped against the side of the first lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the second lamination, to thereby secure the first and second laminations together.

[c10] 10.The assembly of Claim 9 further comprising at least one interior lamination interposed between the first lamination and the second lamination.

[c11] 11.A method of securing adjacent laminations in a stack, the method comprising:

forming in each lamination in the stack at least one hole, corresponding in number and position thereof with the at least one hole of each other lamination in the stack;

removing the material from the at least one hole in each lamination in the stack, except for the top lamination in the stack;

forming an interlocking tab from the material on the top lamination in the stack that projects through the corresponding at least one hole in each other lamination in the stack; and

bending each tab against the side of the bottom lamination that is opposite to the side adjacent to the stack, to thereby secure the laminations together.

[c12] 12.The method of Claim 11 that further comprises forming the holes at the periphery of the laminations.

[c13] 13.A method of securing adjacent laminations in a stack, the method comprising:

forming at least one interlocking tab in the top lamination in the stack, the tab projecting beyond the periphery of the top lamination; and wrapping the at least one tab around the periphery of each lamination in the stack such that the tab is crimped against the side of the bottom lamination in the stack that is opposite to the side adjacent to the stack, thereby securing the laminations of the stack together.